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REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's attention to this Application.

The Office Action rejects all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 7,134,138 to Allan L. Scherr ("Scherr"). Applicant respectfully traverses at least some of those rejections.

This Response moves the substance of dependent claims 3, 11, and 19 into independent claims 1, 9, and 17, respectively. Thus, each of the independent claims involves allowing access to a trusted platform module (TPM), based on a valid delegate owner token.

TPMs are well known in the field of computer technology. For instance, as explained in the first paragraph of the Background section of the present application, a TPM is "circuitry included within a computing system to support trusted computing;" and a TPM "typically includes a public/private key pair for cryptographic operations, can generate anonymous key pairs for use by other entities within the system, [and] can perform encryption and decryption operations."

For a valid rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, "[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." (MPEP § 2131, quoting from *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).) With regard to claims 3, 11, and 19, the Office Action asserts that Scherr discloses a TPM in column 8, lines 22-30. However, that portion of Scherr merely states the following:

For example, the host 22 provides a host name with the Data Host Initialized command request (e.g., a block based command suitable for use with the SCSI protocol), and the data access manager 28 checks to determine that the received host name is a valid one (e.g., compares the received host name to a list of host names entered by a network administrator). If the data access manager 28 determines that the received host name is valid, the data access manager 28 then returns a host token 43 to the host 22 that provided the Data Host Initialization command. As described herein, the block based commands referred to herein, such as the Data Host Initialized command can be commands suitable for use with SCSI block based commands and represent an extension of the SCSI command protocol as one implementation of the invention.

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That portion of Scherr says nothing about TPMs. For at least the foregoing reason, the rejection of former claims 3, 11, and 19 (and present claims 1, 9, and 17) under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is invalid and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (512) 732-3927.

Respectfully submitted,

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